

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-8 and 11 are pending in the present application. Claims 14-20 have been cancelled herewith. Reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Applicants are not conceding in this application that these Claims 14-20, prior to their being cancelled herewith, are not patentable over the cited art provided by the Examiner, as the present claim cancellations are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of the allowable subject matter noted by the Examiner in the most recent Office Action. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue these and other claims in one or more continuation and/or divisional patent applications.

I. 35 U.S.C. § 103, Obviousness

Claims 14-16 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kinzalow et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,052,603), hereinafter “Kinzalow” and Itamochi (U.S. Patent No. 6,154,663), hereinafter “Itamochi”. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants have cancelled such claims herewith, without prejudice or disclaimer, in order to expedite allowance of this case.

Therefore, the rejection of Claims 14-16 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) has been overcome.

II. 35 U.S.C. § 102, Anticipation

Claims 19 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kinzalow and Itamochi, and further in view of Han et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0151336), hereinafter “Han”. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants have cancelled such claims herewith, without prejudice or disclaimer, in order to expedite allowance of this case.

Therefore, the rejection of Claims 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 has been overcome.

III. 35 U.S.C. § 103, Obviousness

Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kinzalow and Itamochi and further in view of Official Notice. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants have cancelled such claims herewith, without prejudice or disclaimer, in order to expedite allowance of this case.

Therefore, the rejection of Claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) has been overcome.

IV. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants graciously acknowledge the allowance of Claims 1-8 and 11. As these Claims 1-8 and 11 are the only claims remaining in this case, it is urged that this case is now in condition for allowance.

V. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

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Respectfully submitted,

/Wayne P. Bailey/

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